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PATENT
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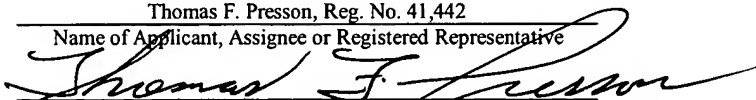
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Norio SUGAWARA et al.
Serial No.: 10/506,719
Filed: September 7, 2004
For: EXTERNAL STORAGE APPARATUS
Art Unit: 2622
Confirmation No.: 5177

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 12, 2008.

Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442
Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative


Signature

February 12, 2008
Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (b)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on

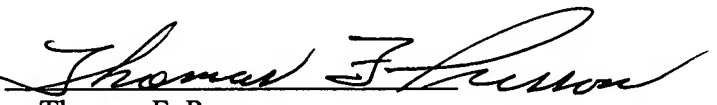
December 20, 2007. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
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